

CLAIMS

We claim:

- ✓ Sub 5 Cl
1. A method, comprising:
 - a) providing;
 - i) a patient presenting symptoms of sepsis, and
 - ii) a therapeutic composition comprising an antibody specific for the complement component of a C5a peptide region, wherein said C5a peptide region is some fraction of the complete C5a peptide; and
 - b) administering said therapeutic composition to said patient.
 - 10 2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said C5a peptide region is selected from the group consisting of the peptides defined by SEQ ID NO:2 and SEQ ID NO:75.
 - 15 Sub Cl 2 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein said subject presents the symptoms of sepsis for a period in the range of approximately six to twelve hours prior to the administration of said therapeutic composition.
 - 4 6. The method of Claim 1, wherein said patient is selected from the group consisting of human, rat, cow, and pig.
 - 5 7. The method of Claim 1, wherein said antibody is polyclonal.
 - 6 8. The method of Claim 1, wherein said antibody is monoclonal.
 - 7 10. The method of Claim 1, wherein said antibody is not reactive with complement component C5.
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